

Book and Movie Discussions, Lectures, Field Trips, and More



WHAT THE DICKENS!

Still very much alive in the popular imagination, author Charles Dickens will be 200 years old on February 7, 2012. The Ridgefield Library is joining a world-wide celebration of this bicentenary with a four-month series of programs and events called *What the Dickens!* The fun begins on December 2 with the town's Holiday Stroll and runs through the end of March.

Programs at the Library begin on Friday, December 2 with two performances (7:15 and 8:30 PM.) for families with children 5 and older of *A Christmas Carol performed by the Hampstead Stage Company*. The following day, Saturday, December 3, the **American Magic Lantern Theater** will have two performances (1:30 and 3 PM) of holiday stories told with hand-painted slides projected on a screen with dramatic narration and piano accompaniment. Suitable for ages 6 - adult. These programs are made possible thanks to Ridgefield's Holiday Stroll.

A bus trip to the **Morgan Library and Museum** in New York to visit their *Dickens at 200* exhibit will leave the Library at 8:30 AM on Friday, January 20. Tickets are \$40 (\$35 for seniors 65 and older). Another special program will be a **Victorian tea with period entertainment** in the Garden House at the Keeler Tavern Museum on Saturday, February 4 at 3 PM. Tickets are \$30. Tickets for both of these programs can be purchased at ridgefieldlibrary.org or 203-438-2282.

Professor **Mark Edwards**, Media Studies Dept. at Sacred Heart University, will return to lead Saturday morning film screenings and discussions at 10 AM in the Dayton Program Room of the following classics:

A Christmas Carol (1951) - December 10
Oliver Twist (1948) - January 7
David Copperfield (1935) - February 11
Great Expectations (1946) - March 10

For the younger crowd, the animated *Mr. Magoo's Christmas Carol* (1962) will be shown on Wednesday, December 28 at 11 AM.

Also back by popular demand is **Dr. Mark Schenker**, Senior Associate Dean of Yale College, who will present a three part Thursday evening lecture series called *From Oliver to David to Pip: A Survey of Dickens' Development as a Novelist*. Lectures are:
Part One - *Oliver Twist* - January 12
Part Two - *David Copperfield* - February 16
Part Three - *Great Expectations* - March 15.
Please register at www.ridgefieldlibrary.org.

Each lecture will be followed by book discussions:
Oliver Twist - Tuesday, January 17, 10 AM & 7 PM
David Copperfield - Wednesday, Feb. 22, 10AM & 7PM
Great Expectations - Thursday, March 22, 1 PM & 7PM
Additional discussions will include:

American Notes for General Circulation -

Tuesday, January 3, 7 PM

The Mystery of Edwin Drood -

Thursday, March 1, 1 PM

The Reading Is a Family Affair

program for children in grades 3 to 6

and their parents will focus on

The Cheshire Cheese Cat: A

Dickens of a Tale - Wednesday,

February 29 at 6 PM. Register in the

Children's Department and pick up a free copy of the book.



What the Dickens! is made possible thanks to the Wadsworth Russell Lewis Fund and the Friends of the Library. Visit www.ridgefieldlibrary.org for information or to register.

Book Character Illustrations By Chris Riddell, Copyright Guardian News & Media LT D 2011

Film Screening and Discussions:

Features with the Friends

Frost / Nixon with David Rich



From director Ron Howard comes the electrifying, untold story behind one of the most unforgettable moments in history. When disgraced President Richard Nixon agreed to an interview with jet-setting television personality David Frost, he thought he'd found the key to saving his tarnished legacy. But, with a name to make and a reputation to overcome, Frost became one of Nixon's most

formidable adversaries and engaged the leader in a charged battle of wits that changed the face of politics forever.

Featuring Frank Langella and Michael Sheen.

Rated R, 122 Minutes



No registration

Tuesday, December 6, 6:15 PM

The Man Who Wanted to Classify the World

with Dr. Gayle Bogel

In conjunction with an exciting new exhibit called *Library Science* now on show at Artspace in New Haven, the Ridgefield Library will be taking part in a statewide film festival featuring a broad array of movies all depicting the library in a starring role. The Library will screen the fascinating documentary *The Man Who Wanted To Classify the World*. A discussion will follow the screening led by Dr. Gayle Bogel, Director, Education Technology Program at Fairfield University.

The film looks at the Belgian visionary Paul Otlet who in 1934 conceived of a library with no physical books whose contents could be viewed on a screen. His obsession was to classify, encode and unify books and documents published all over the world. Over the years, he and his staff would fill in 12 million index cards. His classification system is regarded today as similar to hypertext, which enables us to navigate the internet. A pacifist and internationalist, Otlet was also one of the driving forces behind the League of Nations.

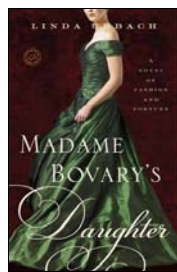
This fascinating film interweaves recently discovered documents from his archive with autobiographical material.

No registration

Monday, December 12, 7 PM

Author Talk:

with Linda Urbach



Author Linda Urbach will discuss her recently released novel *Madame Bovary's Daughter*. The book picks up after the shattering end of Gustave Flaubert's classic novel and asks: how does a daughter survive the legacy of a mother's sinful past?

Linda Urbach's first book, *Expecting Miracles*, was published by

Putnam in the U.S (under the name Linda U. Howard). It won the French Family Book Award and was later sold to Paramount Pictures. Her second novel, *The Money Honey*, was also published by Putnam.



Co-sponsored by Books on the Common.

No registration

Thursday, December 8, 7 PM

ARTalk:

Colors and Interiors

with Olga Adler



Finding Your Personal Color Palette will be the topic of an ARTalk presented by interior designer Olga Adler. "Color is the greatest transformative force in interiors and the most powerful tool to shape and personalize our environment," said Ms. Adler, who will prove that the best color schemes are the ones that make us happy to come home to.

Olga Adler provides decorating services to fine homes in Fairfield and Westchester counties. Her store Olga Adler Interiors is on Main Street in Ridgefield.

ARTalks co-sponsored by The Guild of Artists.

No registration

Sunday, December 4, 2 PM

BOOK GROUPS

NONFICTIONEERS

Tuesday, December 6
7 PM
How We Decide
by Jonah Lehrer

Next Month's Selection
Tuesday, January 3

American Notes for General Circulation
by Charles Dickens

When Charles Dickens set out for America in 1842 he was the most famous man of his day to travel there. His frank and often humorous descriptions cover everything from his comically wretched sea voyage to his sheer astonishment at the magnificence of the Niagara Falls. His opinion of America as a land ruled by money, partly built on slavery, with a corrupt press and unsavory manners, provoked a hostile reaction on both sides of the Atlantic.

A *What the Dickens!* Program

MURDER BY THE BOOK

Thursday, January 5
1 PM
Still Life
By Louise Penny

The debut entry in a quirky series featuring Chief Inspector Armand Gamache of the Sûreté du Québec, who is often called upon to investigate crimes in the tiny village of Three Pines, just north of the US border. The set of secondary characters in *Three Pines* adds to the appeal of Gamache himself, with his integrity, intelligence and love of eating.

Books & Breakfast

Monday, January 9
10:30 AM



CRITICS' CIRCLE BOOK GROUP

Tuesday, January 17
7 PM
Oliver Twist
by Charles Dickens

Abandoned at an early age, Oliver Twist is forced to live in a dark and dismal London workhouse. Desperate but determined, Oliver makes his escape only to find life outside the workhouse is much more dangerous.

A *What the Dickens!* Program

Poetry Discussion Group

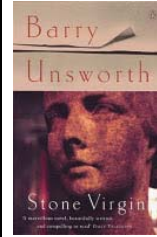
Friday, December 16
1 PM

Selected Poems
by Rainer Maria Rilke

Sponsored by The Friends

A.M. BOOK GROUP

Wednesday, January 25
10 AM
Stone Virgin
by Barry Unsworth



Art restorer Simon Raikes becomes involved with mysteries, past and present, while working on a 500-year-old stone

Madonna atop a Venice church.

Please note: Critics' Circle, AM Book Group, Murder by the Book and Books and Breakfast do not meet in December. See you in the New Year!

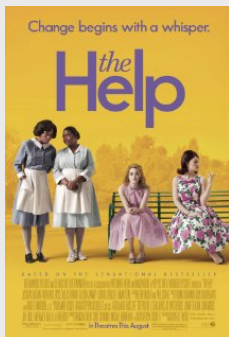
Copies of these books may be purchased at Books on the Common at a 15% discount or inquire about Inter-Library Loan availability.

New members always welcome!

Hollister Films

The Help

2011, Rated PG 13, 137 Minutes



The #1 New York Times bestseller by Kathryn Stockett comes to vivid life through the powerful performances of a phenomenal ensemble cast. Led by Emma Stone, Academy Award®-nominated Viola Davis (Best Supporting Actress, *Doubt*, 2008), Octavia Spencer and Bryce Dallas Howard, *The Help* is an inspirational, courageous and empowering story about very different, extraordinary women in the 1960s South who build an unlikely friendship around a secret writing project — one that breaks society's rules and puts them all at risk.

Tuesday, December 13

1:30 & 7 PM - Subtitles at afternoon screening

Ridgefield Library, 472 Main Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877, 203/438-2282, www.ridgefieldlibrary.org

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|--|-----|--|---|---|
|  <p>Exhibit: <i>Beholding the Spirit Everywhere: The Street Photography of Dr. John Diamond</i> November 4 - December 30</p> <p>Extended Through December</p> | | | | 1 | <p>2 Seminar: <i>Poetry 101 - The Victorians</i> with Patricia Grodd 1 PM Register Part 4 of 4</p> <p>Ridgefield's Holiday Stroll 6 - 10 PM</p> | <p>3 Memoir Group: Monthly Meeting 10 AM</p> <p>Performance: 1:30 PM Magic Lantern Theater Show 1:30 and 3 PM</p> <p>Ridgefield's Holiday Stroll 12 - 7 PM</p> |
| | | | | <p>4 ARTalk: Color and Interiors - Finding Your Personal Color Palette with Olga Adler 2 PM</p> | 5 | <p>6 Features with the Friends Film Screening and Discussion: <i>Frost / Nixon</i> led by David Rich 6:15 PM</p> <p>The Nonfic- tioners: How We Decide by Jonah Lehrer 7 PM</p> |
| 11 | <p>12 Film Screening and Discus- sion: The Man Who Wanted to Classify the World 7 PM led by Dr. Gayle Bogel</p> | <p>13 Hollister Film Series: The Help 1:30 and 7 PM</p> | 14 | 15 | <p>16 Poetry Discussion Group: Selected Poems by Rainer Maria Rilke led by Dr. Alan Holder 1 PM</p> | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | <p>20 Meeting: Writers Guild of Ridgefield 7 PM</p> | 21 | 22 | 23 | <p>24 Library Closed: Christmas Holiday</p> |
| <p>25 Library Closed: Christmas Holiday</p> | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | <p>31 Library Closing Early: Happy New Year! 3 PM</p> |